

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-04

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /005 R

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DRAFTED BY: AF/ C: COHEN

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R 172333 Z MAY 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 095103

FOLL SENT ACTION SECSTATE SECDEF USDAO FORT LAMY USCINCEUR
FROM YAOUNDE 17 MAY 73 REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L YAOUNDE 1628

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI

SUBJECT: CONUS TRAINING FOR CAMEROONIAN

REF: YAOUNDE 1530

1. DEFENCE MINISTER ASSURED ME MAY 15 THAT WITHDRAWAL OF MAJOR
TATAW' S CANDIDACY FOR ADVANCED INFANTRY OFFICERS COURSE DID NOT
REPRESENT LOSS OF INTEREST BY CAMEROON IN COURSE. MINISTER
RECEIVED ME ON RETURNING FROM ELECTION CAMPAIGN TRIP.

2. MAJOR TATAW WAS KEPT BACK BY SUDDEN INSURGENT THREAT IN
HIS DISTRICT, BORDERING THE CONGO/ BRAZZAVILLE BORDER. DEFENCE
MINISTER EXPLAINED THAT CAMEROONIAN POLITICAL REFUGEES IN CONGO- B
WERE TO HAVE BEEN SENT TO ALGERIA BY AGREEMENT OF GOVERNMENTS
CONCERNED. BUT ALGERIA HAD SUDDENLY BALKED. IT HAD BEEN
LEARNED ALSO THAT REFUGEES HAD RECEIVED ARMS FROM RECENTLY-
EXECUTED ANGE DIAWARA, ARMS POSSIBLY ORIGINATING IN CUBA.
FINALLY, WHEREAS THE NGOUBI REGIME HAD KEPT REFUGEES UNDER
HOUSE ARREST IT NOW DEVELOPED THAT THEY WERE AT LIBERTY AND HAD
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BEEN SEEN AT OUESSO, ON CAMEROON BORDER. UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES,
MAJOR TATAW' S COMMAND COULD NOT BE TURNED OVER TO OFFICER
UNFAMILIAR WITH AREA.

3. DEFENCE MINISTER' S REMARKS UNUSUAL IN THEIR CANDOR, ESPECIALLY
AS THEY REFER TO NEIGHBORING STATE. BELIEVE HE WENT TO EXTRA
LENGTHS TO HEAD OFF SUSPICION THAT ORIGINAL CAMEROON REQUEST HAD
RUN INTO POLITICAL PROBLEM.
MORE UNQUOTE RUSH

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NMAFVVZCZ

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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